AMENDMENTS

In the specification

On page 1, after the title of the invention, please insert the following paragraph:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

-- This application is the U.S. National Phase of international application PCT/US98/04084, filed on March 3, 1998, and U. S. Serial No. 09/033,428, filed March 2, 1998 which claims priority to U.S. provisional patent application 06/039,597, which was filed March 2, 1997. --

In the claims

Please cancel claims 1-70.

Please enter the following new claims.

71. A method for conferring selective cytotoxicity on a target cell, said method comprising contacting a cell which allows an α fetoprotein transcription regulatory element (AFP-TRE) to function with an adenovirus vector comprising an adenovirus gene essential for viral replication under transcriptional control of an AFP-TRE, said AFP-TRE comprising an enhancer from an AFP gene, whereby the vector enters the cell and replicates.

72. The method of claim 1, wherein the adenovirus gene of the adenovirus vector is an early gene.

73. The method of claim 2, wherein the adenovirus early gene is E1A.

74. The method of claim 2, wherein the adenovirus early gene is E1B.

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5. The method of claim 2, wherein the adenovirus early gene is E4.

Subclaim 26
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises nucleotides from about 1 to about 300 of SEQ ID NO:1.

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7. The method of claim 1, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises nucleotides from about 300 to about 600 of SEQ ID NO:1.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises nucleotides from about 1 to about 600 of SEQ ID NO:1.

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9. The method of claim 1, wherein the AFP-TRE further comprises a promoter from an AFP gene.

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10. The method of claim 9, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises SEQ ID NO:1.

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11. The method of claim 9, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

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12. The method of claim 1, wherein the adenovirus vector further comprises an additional adenovirus gene essential for replication under transcriptional control of a second AFP-TRE, said second AFP-TRE comprising an enhancer from an AFP gene.

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13. A method of suppressing tumor growth in an individual having an AFP-expressing tumor, comprising contacting the tumor cells with an adenovirus vector comprising an adenovirus gene essential for viral replication under transcriptional control of an AFP-TRE, said AFP-TRE comprising an enhancer from an AFP gene, whereby the adenoviral vector transfects the tumor cells and replicates.

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14. The method of claim 13, wherein the adenovirus gene of the adenovirus vector is an early gene.

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15. The method of claim 14, wherein the adenovirus early gene is E1A.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the adenovirus early gene is E1B.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein the adenovirus early gene is E4.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises nucleotides from about 1 to about 300 of SEQ ID NO:1.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises nucleotides from about 300 to about 600 of SEQ ID NO:1.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises nucleotides from about 1 to about 600 of SEQ ID NO:1.

21. The method of claim 13, wherein the AFP-TRE further comprises a promoter from an AFP gene.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises SEQ ID NO:1.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the AFP-TRE comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

24. The method of claim 13, wherein the adenovirus vector further comprises an additional adenovirus gene essential for replication under transcriptional control of a second AFP-TRE, said second AFP-TRE comprising an enhancer from an AFP gene.

25. An adenovirus complexed with a masking agent, wherein the masking agent is polyethyleneglycol (PEG), wherein the PEG is of a molecular weight between about 5000 to about 10,000, wherein the PEG is covalently attached to the adenovirus by using a N-hydroxysuccinimidyl (NHS) active ester.

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26. The adenovirus of claim 25, wherein the N-hydroxysuccinimidyl (NHS) active ester is selected from the group consisting of succinimidyl succinate, succinimidyl succinamide and succinimidyl propionate.

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27. The adenovirus of claim 26, wherein the N-hydroxysuccinimidyl (NHS) active ester is succinimidyl succinate.

03505551.060202

Serial No. Unassigned
Docket No. 348022000420

pa-408466

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Sept. 3, 1999

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